# AMERICAN CHEMICAL SERVICES NPL SITE GRIFFITH, INDIANA SITE SUMMARY AS OF October 2, 1990

#### SITE HISTORY

The American Chemical Services NPL site was listed on the National Priorities List (NPL) in September 1984. The ACS site contains a RCRA "interim status" facility currently undergoing closure proceedings overseen by the Indiana Department of Environmental Management. When it operated the facility accepted various hazardous materials, primarily spent solvents, for distillation and eventual resale. The ACS site is composed of three landfilled areas: the Mon-site containment aream; the Moff-site containment aream; and the village of Griffith municipal landfill. The two containment areas contain numerous buried drums and sludges derived from ACS processes, and contain non-recyclable materials transported to ACS by its customers all during the period from 1955 until 1975. The Village of Griffith landfill was used by ACS for disposal of various hazardous substances. Other areas at the site include the Kapica Drum area (located outside the operating portion of the facility) and a buried still bottoms pond (located inside the operating facility). Kapica Drum encompasses approximately two acres and formerly housed a drum reclaiming operation which was known to discharge solvents directly to the ground surface. A consent order to perform a RI/FS was signed by approximately 150 former customers of ACS as potentially responsible parties (PRPs) on June 28, 1988. Site work began in late June 1989. The USEPA recently issued a RCRA complaint against ACS, which resulted in a Consent Decree ordering ACS to either comply with RCRA financial assurance regulations by early September 1990, or close the facility. As a result of the decree, ACS ceased accepting hazardous wastes as of September 6, 1990. ACS is required to submit their hazardous waste closure plan to the Indiana Department of Environmental Management by October 5, 1990 per the decree.

#### CURRENT CLEANUP STATUS

Phase I of the RI was completed in early December 1989, with the submittal of technical memoranda to USEPA by the PRPs contractor. Phase I results showed highly contaminated soils in the Kapica Drum area, highly contaminated groundwater underlying most areas of the site, and large volumes of hazardous waste materials within the on-site and off-site containment areas. Phase II RI field work concentrated on determining the extent of groundwater contamination, sampling of residential wells, delineating the volume of highly toxic hazardous substances in the waste burial areas (e.g., PCBs), delineating site wetlands, delineating sediment and surface water contamination, and the extent of waste burial. A limited "third" phase of site work scheduled to began September 10, 1990 to determine the continuity of an aquitard clay layer in the northwest portion of the site. Additional deep aquifer and shallow aquifer wells are expected to be installed during October to aid in finding the edge of contaminant plumes in these aquifers in distinct areas. The RI Report will discuss the findings of Phases I, II and III.

## ENVIRONMENTAL SITUATION

Large tracts of wetlands border the site to the west, southwest, north, and east. Sediment samples have been taken to assess the impact the site has had on these areas. Groundwater is heavily contaminated with benzene, xylene and toluene, and halogenated compounds in DNAPL form. Lesser concentrated substances include methylene chloride, chloroethane, phenols, various semi-volatile compounds and trace PCBs near one source area. Groundwater appears to discharge to nearby wetland areas but the extent of discharge and its impact is as yet unknown. Preliminary data shows the lower aquifer to be contaminated on-site, however, residential wells screened in the deep aquifer near the site do not appear to be impacted.

#### PROPOSED SCHEDULE

Due to difficulties arising from an increased use of laboratory time, submittal of the draft RI report to USEPA has been delayed from September 7, until September 24, 1990. The final RI report which will include all phases of the RI, is expected to be completed by February 1991. The FS report is due to USEPA by April 1991. A Record of Decision has been scheduled for the end of June 1992.

All dates are currently projected and do not account for unforseen site complexities.

EPA Region 5 Records Ctr.

#### RESPONDENTS TO THE RI/FS CONSENT ORDER

3M Company AMD Industries Abbott Labs Acme Printing Acme Steel Adheron Coatings Aigner Products Allied Signal Amerace Corp. American National Can American Roller Co. Ashland Chemical Ashland Petroleum Atlas Electric Device Auburn Diecast Corp. Bagcraft Corp. of Am. Ball Corp. Baxter Healthcare Bennett Industries Borg-Warner Corp. Breuer Electric Mfg. Breve Corp. Brunswick Corp. Burwood Products C.P. Hall Co. CSX Transportation CTS Corp. Ceco Corporation Champion Internatl Chase Products Chicago Adhesive Chicago Loop Auto-Refinishing Inc. Chicago Rotoprint Coca-Cola Foods Continental Can Cudner & O'Connor Co DAP, Inc. Daubert Chemical Co. DeMert & Dougherty Denniston, Ltd. DeSoto, Inc. Dietzgen Corp. DiversiTech General Dixline Corporation Dreeblan Paint Co. E.I. DuPont Eli Lilly & Company Ericsson Inc. **Exacto Products** Federal Paper Board Flint Ink Corp. Fort Dearborn-Lithograph Freeman Chemical G.D. Searle & Co. GCA Corp Gast Manufacturing General Am. Trnsprtn General Electric General Motors Glidden Company Great Lakes Terminal Trnsprt Corp. Hitco Hugh J. McLaughlin Hydrite Chemical Hydrosol, Inc. Illinois Bronze Paint

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# U.S. EPA REGION V

Office of Superfund
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